

rapidly being pulled down stream while holding onto the canoe. At this point Derek Creel with total disregard for his own life or safety jumped into the cold water and swam towards the victims. After reaching the victims and the canoe he attempted to get them to the shore, but the currents were too strong and they were washed down river about half a mile from the boat launch.

At this point Derek was able to steer the canoe into a downed tree in the river. He then had to physically hold onto both victims. He soon became exhausted and had to make a very difficult decision. Let one victim go and save the child and himself. The father, Tim Sagafoose was injured and was unable to help or respond. Derek was unable to hold onto the father any longer and turned him loose into the current. Derek then had to calm the young boy and explain what he had to just do. He had the presence of mind to witness to the young boy about God and salvation, all while holding onto him in the cold swift water for over for over thirty minutes before they were rescued by Warrior Firefighters Lee Kilgore and Luke Ahl.

I personally spoke with Derek at the scene and he was visibly shaken, and extremely apologetic about not being able to save the father. And he was very humble about his rescue efforts on this night.

After days of refusing media interviews, he finally did an interview on the day Tim Sagafoose's body was recovered. During this interview, Derek credited his actions to God and his Savior Jesus Christ for putting him there that day and giving him the strength to hold on.

After 34 years of Law Enforcement experience I walked away from this incident with not only amazement at the actions of Derek Creel, but true respect for him. He is a remarkable young man with strength and conviction and truly humble demeanor. I am very proud of Derek for not only his heroism, but his witness of the Lord in this difficult moment. He is truly a hero in my opinion in more ways than one.

In closing, I congratulate Derek and the entire Creel family.

TRIBUTE TO JEFFREY SPEARS, ON RECEIVING THE RABBI NORMAN F. FELDHEYM AWARD FOR LOYALTY AND SERVICE TO THE SYNAGOGUE AND COMMUNITY OF THE CONGREGATION EMANU EL

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, the Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award was established to pay tribute to those members of Congregation Emanu El, who have conspicuously and exceptionally reflected Rabbi Feldheim's qualities of love for and loyalty to the synagogue, and service to the community.

Today, I rise to congratulate Jeffrey Spears for receiving the distinguished Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award for loyalty and service to the Community and the Congregation of Emanu El. Jeffrey Spears has served his congregation selflessly and faithfully, with uncompromising integrity, candor and generosity.

Jeffrey has been an extraordinarily devoted community leader. His family now marks five generations at Congregation Emanu El. Jeffrey has given evidence of his deep love for Judaism through strong contribution to worship and education, an exemplary commitment to Jewish values, and their application to contemporary society.

Jeffrey has served the surrounding community as member of the San Bernardino City Library Foundation Board, the American Water Works Association, the Mueller Water Products Advisory Council, the California State University San Bernardino School of Education Friends of the College, and the Community Advisory Board of Security Bank of California.

Jeffrey has demonstrated his devotion to Jewish learning and practice by serving on the faculty of Congregation Emanu El's School for Jewish learning, attending Judaism Conventions and traveling to Israel.

Jeffrey has made familial commitment central to his life, continuing to work in the family business founded by his grandfather Julius. Jeffrey and his wife, Heidi Nimmo, have raised their two children, Neil and Sarah, exemplifying commitments to scholastic achievement, community involvement and leadership.

Jeffrey is respected and beloved by our community for his honesty, courage, kindness and compassion. The success of his extraordinary citizenship is best summarized in the receipt of the prestigious Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award.

I join today with public leaders throughout my State to express our gratitude to Jeffrey and Congregation Emanu El for reflecting the late Rabbi Feldheim's qualities of service to community, as well as humility, care and loving-kindness.

Madam Speaker, Jeffrey Spears will be honored with the prestigious Rabbi Norman F. Feldheim Award on Saturday, June 2, 2010, marking the 119th Anniversary of the chartering of Congregation Emanu El. It is fitting, on such a momentous occasion, that we stand here today to honor Jeffrey Spears, for his humble and outstanding service.

RECOGNIZING THE DUMFRIES FIRST MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH HEALTH FAIR

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the "Healthy Living/Healthy Lifestyle Conference" sponsored by First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries, Va., and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.

The health fair focuses on HIV/AIDS and hosts workshops on hypertension-diabetes, cholesterol, obesity in children and adults, prostate cancer, breast cancer, domestic violence and mental health. Community partners have made it possible to provide free health screenings and HIV/AIDS testing to fair attendees. I would like to extend my personal appreciation to the fair's community partners for their charity and good stewardship of a healthy Prince William community.

Prince William County Health Department
NOVAM AIDS Ministry
National Institutes of Health
Prince William County Area Churches
Ezra Nehemiah Solomon Foundation (ENS)
Women In Community Action (WICA)
K I Services
Affairs Remembered, LLC

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending First Mount Zion Baptist Church and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. for extending this educational service to the Prince William community. With so many citizens medically underserved and uninformed on healthy lifestyle practices, a free health fair is an opportunity to face these challenges head on and address the threat they pose to our nation's health.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILROY SANDERS

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Wilroy Sanders, a Korean War Veteran, legendary blues musician, and beloved Memphian. Mr. Sanders was born Willie Roy Sanders in Byhalia, Mississippi and moved to Memphis in the early 1930's. From an early age, he demonstrated a remarkable gift for music—teaching himself to play guitar and even making his own guitars. His unique musical style was developed from a combination of his church upbringing and traditional blues music.

After serving in the U.S. Army from 1953–1955, Mr. Sanders returned home to Memphis to pursue his passion for music. In the early 1960s, he played in a series of bands including the Binghampton Blues Boys which became renowned for their song, "Crosscut Saw." Many blues musicians, including Albert King and Eric Clapton, have since covered this hit.

Wilroy Sanders went on to form the Fieldstones, a blues band known for the songs "Blues at Nightfall" and "Dirt Road." In the 1990s, The Fieldstones became the house band for the popular Green's Lounge in Memphis. Soon afterwards, Mr. Sanders and his wife, Dorothy Mae Tucker Sanders, became owners of Green's Lounge, which they owned until it was destroyed by fire in 1997.

Memphis music label Shangri-La produced a 1999 documentary celebrating the life and work of Wilroy Sanders entitled Will Roy Sanders: The Last Living Bluesman. The documentary noted that Mr. Sanders was, like Rufus Thomas, "a total entertainer" and dubbed the Fieldstones "one of the hottest blues bands ever from Memphis."

Mr. Sanders touched the lives of many in Memphis and across the nation. He passed away on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at the age of 76. We are truly honored for his service in the U.S. Army and for his contributions to the Memphis blues community. Wilroy Sanders' legacy lives on through his wife, children and his music.